

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the supporting sides converge at the supporting edge.
3. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the first axis is parallel to a longitudinal axis of the supporting edge.
4. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the supporting sides are substantially parallel to one another.
5. (Currently Amended) A pivotable collecting device for handling a folded sheet material, comprising:
 - a supporting edge for supporting a fold of the folded sheet material;
 - two supporting sides opposing one another;
 - means for pivoting the supporting edge and supporting sides about a first axis to receive the folded sheet material such that each supporting side receives a different portion of the folded sheet material, the first axis between the two support sides; and

a collecting drive for at least one of: clamping the folded sheet material against at least one of the supporting sides, and advancing the folded sheet material along the at least one supporting side.

6. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein: the collecting drive is rotatably mounted on at least one mounting side, and the at least one mounting side is arranged substantially perpendicular to the supporting sides.

7. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the collecting drive rotates based on a pivoting movement of the supporting edge and supporting sides.

8. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the collecting drive rotates based on at least one of a biasing element and contact between the collecting drive and a redirection area.

9. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the collecting drive rotates about a second axis parallel to the first axis.

10. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, comprising:

means for deflecting the folded sheet material onto at least one of the supporting sides.

11. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the pivotable collecting device comprises:

means for aligning the folded sheet material on the supporting edge.

12. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the pivotable collecting device comprises:

means for staple clinching.

13. (Previously Presented) The pivotable collecting device of claim 5, wherein the pivotable collecting device comprises:

means for ejecting the folded sheet material from the supporting edge.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the receiving step includes pivoting the pivotable collecting device in a second direction to receive the first portion of the folded sheet material.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, comprising the step of: deflecting the first portion of the folded sheet material onto the first supporting side of the collecting device.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for transferring folded sheet material, comprising the step of:

receiving a first portion of the folded sheet material on a first supporting side of a collecting device;

supporting a fold of the folded sheet material on a supporting edge of the collecting device;

pivoting the pivotable collecting device in a first direction such that a second supporting side of the pivotable collecting device receives a second portion of the folded sheet material, wherein the first and second supporting sides are opposing sides of the collecting device; and

clamping the first portion of the folded sheet material against the first supporting side of the collecting device.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, comprising the step of: advancing the first portion of the folded sheet material along the first supporting side of the collecting device.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, comprising the step of: locking the pivotable collecting device when a desired amount of folded sheet material is received by the pivotable collecting device.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A pivotable collecting device for handling a folded sheet material, comprising:

a supporting edge for supporting a fold of a folded sheet material;

two supporting sides opposing one another;

means for pivoting the supporting edge and supporting sides about a first axis to receive the folded sheet material such that each supporting side receives a different portion of the folded sheet material, wherein the supporting sides converge at the supporting edge and is between the two supporting sides, and the first axis is parallel to a longitudinal axis of the supporting edge and is between the two supporting sides; and

a collecting drive for at least one of: clamping the folded sheet material against at least one of the supporting sides, and advancing the folded sheet material along the at least one supporting side.

22. (New) The pivotable collecting device of claim 21, wherein the collecting drive rotates based on a pivoting movement of the supporting edge and supporting sides.

23. (New) The pivotable collecting device of claim 21, wherein the collecting drive rotates based on at least one of a biasing element and contact between the collecting drive and a redirection area.

24. (New) The pivotable collecting device of claim 21, wherein the collecting drive rotates about a second axis parallel to the first axis.